REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough examination of the application. Applicant has carefully examined the newly cited references and submits that the claims as presented herein are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,282,431 to Konno.

Independent Claim 1 is Not Anticipated by Konno

Applicant emphasizes that the teachings of Konno are directed to entirely different subject matter from the claims of the present application. Several features of Claim 1 are directed to a user inputting a reset time value to reset a real time clock and to checking the reset time value to constrain what changes are allowed to the real time clock. In sharp contrast, Konno's disclosure is directed to a portable telephone terminal that can automatically adjust for changing time zones without requiring any user action (see Column 2, lines 4-8, Column 5, lines 15-26 and Column 7, lines 4-8).

The different context and field of application of Konno results in Konno not teaching or suggesting many of the features of claim 1, as described below.

Konno does not disclose a system time generator that generates *system time information* by *adding an offset to real time information from a real time clock*. Rather, Konno discloses that a present time is calculated according to the formula in Column 7, line 47 and based on SYS_TIME, LP_SEC and LTM_OFF (see Column 8, lines 49-54) to set the real time clock (see Column 8, lines 53-54). Each one of the parameters SYS_TIME, LP_SEC and LTM_OFF received in a message at the portable telephone terminal (see Column 8, lines 49-52 and Column 7, lines 24-34), rather than being generated by a generator

or being given by a counter integrated in the portable telephone terminal. Moreover, Konno does not disclose that an offset is added to a real time information from a real time clock.

Konno does not disclose the output means recited in Claim 1 for outputting system time information. In Column 8, lines 46-57 of Konno, the extraction of the SYS_TIME parameter from a message received at the portable telephone terminal is described (see Figure 7 of Konno for the message data fields). The extracted SYS_TIME is utilized to set the real time clock, but is not output for use by a decision means as recited in Claim 1.

Konno does not disclose an input means for inputting instructions for changing a system time information. Moreover, Konno does not disclose that such input means enables a user to input a reset time value for the real time clock. While Konno generally discloses that the portable telephone terminal may have an input operation unit (see Column 4, lines 13-16), Konno does not teach or suggest that the system time may be changed via the input unit. Rather, Konno's disclosure is directed to automatically updating time in the portable telephone terminal without user input/intervention (see Column 2, lines 4-8). Consequently, Konno teaches that parameters such as SYS_TIME, LP_SEC and LTM_OFF are only obtained from a message sent by a base station and received at the portable telephone terminal (see Column 8, lines 58-64), and that the real time clock is automatically set based on these parameters (see Column 8, lines 49-54 and lines 63-64).

Konno does not disclose a decision means for limiting the possible changes of the system time information generated by the system time generator to a preset time range. Konno discloses that, when the portable telephone terminal is moved from a base station coverage area in one time zone to a base station coverage area in another time zone, the local time is automatically changed (see Column 4, lines 60-66). However, Konno does not disclose that the time adjustment is subject to any limitations. Even if the finite number of time zones on the Earth were considered to imply a limitation as regards possible time adjustment, this limitation would result from the finite number of time zones and would by no means imply that the portable telephone terminal has a decision means that limits possible time changes.

In Konno, the real time information of the real time clock is not periodically stored in a non-volatile memory. The time differential table 2A of Konno does not store real time clock time information, but stores time differential information such that a correspondence is established between system identification numbers of base stations and time differential information items (see Column 4, lines 51-53 and Column 6, lines 53-59). This allows the time to be automatically adjusted to a local time based on an identification number of a base station (see Column 4, lines 27-53). The register RG of Konno does not periodically store real time information of the real time clock, either, but stores the current time differential information (see Column 4, lines 2-7), which may be updated when the portable telephone terminal receives a new system identification from a new base station (see Column 5, lines 15-26).

Konno does not disclose that a decision means checks if a reset time value input by a user is later than a last time information of the real time clock stored in the non-volatile memory, and the real time clock is set to the new time according to the reset time value if the reset time value passes the check. As indicated above, Konno does not disclose a decision means, inputting of a reset time value by a user or storing real time information for a real time clock. In addition, Konno does not disclose a check involving a comparison between two time values in order to set the real time clock. The procedure described in Konno's Column 8, lines 26-32, to which reference is made in the Office Action, describes a determination as to whether a mode is switched to a CDMA mode or to an AMPS mode in a dual mode device, but does not relate to a check for a reset time value.

Because many features of claim 1 are not disclosed by Konno, Konno cannot anticipate Claim 1. Reconsideration and allowance of Claim 1 is therefore respectfully requested.

Dependent Claims Provide Independent Basis for Patentability Over Konno

The dependent claims are patentable at least pursuant to their dependency from Claim 1. Moreover, Applicant submits that many of these claims provide independent basis for patentability over Konno for at least the reasons explained below.

As to claim 2: The time differential table 2A of Konno stores time differential information in association with base station identification numbers. Not only does Konno not describe or suggest that that a user inputs a reset time value for a real time clock, it moreover does not describe of suggest that such an inputted reset time value is stored in a non-volatile memory for use in the operations recited in Claim 1.

As to claims 3 and 7: Konno does not describe or suggest that a user enters a new system time, and moreover does not describe of suggest that such a user inputted reset time is not allowed to change a real time clock when the user inputted reset time differ from real time information from a real time clock by more than a predefined value. In Column 5, lines 15-26, Konno teaches a criterion for automatically updating a time based on a time differential information associated with an old and new system identification, i.e., base station. The criterion involves comparing the new time differential information with an old one stored in the register RG (see Column 5, lines 19-20 and Column 4, lines 3-6). It does not involve a real time clock time information or a comparison of a time difference with a maximum predefined value.

As to claim 4: The offset time LTM_OFF of Konno (see Column 7, lines 40-41) is not a predefined value which defines a maximum allowed difference between two time values for a user inputted reset time and real time information from a real time clock, but, in sharp contrast, is a value that is used to calculate the present time (see Column 7, line 47). Accordingly, Konno does not describe or suggest that the recitations of claim 4.
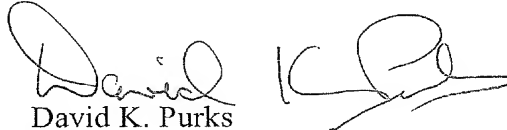
As to claims 5 and 8: Konno does not disclose that a predefined value, used by a decision means to constrain changes to the real time clock, is defined in response to a given inaccuracy of the time information from a real time clock. In Column 8, lines 40-57, a setting process for the real time clock is described. However, the accuracy or inaccuracy of the real time clock is not mentioned in Konno, nor does Konno teach that a new system time is compared with a value that depends on the inaccuracy of the real time clock.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all rejections and the allowance of all claims in due course. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone at (919) 854-1400.
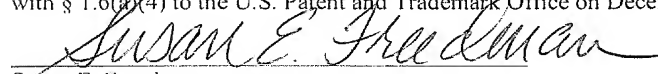
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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on December 12, 2008.

Susan E. Freedman
Date of Signature: December 12, 2008